

which was one of the pivotal tenets of both the Final Rule and the new OPTN contract.

Mr. President, I share the belief of many of my colleagues that Governor Thompson is eminently qualified to meet the many and varied policy challenges that will be incumbent on the next Health and Human Services Secretary, ranging from sustaining and expanding the successes to date of welfare reform, to assessing options on how best to put Medicare on sound financial and actuarial footing for the long-term. I have confidence that Governor Thompson will approach the duties of his office with probity and rectitude. I am hopeful that the Governor will work with Congress to reauthorize NOTA and to support and ensure compliance with the regulations put forth last year relating to the operation of the organ procurement and transplantation network in the United States.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, if it is necessary for me to yield back time, I will, but I did not want to yield back time until I knew exactly where we were with other people who had time.

Mr. President, I yield back my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time having been yielded back, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Tommy G. Thompson, of Wisconsin, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services? The yeas and nays have been ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 100, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 4 Ex.]

YEAS—100

Akaka	Durbin	McCain
Allard	Edwards	McConnell
Allen	Ensign	Mikulski
Baucus	Enzi	Miller
Bayh	Feingold	Murkowski
Bennett	Feinstein	Murray
Biden	Fitzgerald	Nelson (FL)
Bingaman	Frist	Nelson (NE)
Bond	Graham	Nickles
Boxer	Gramm	Reed
Breaux	Grassley	Reid
Brownback	Gregg	Roberts
Bunning	Hagel	Rockefeller
Burns	Harkin	Santorum
Byrd	Hatch	Sarbanes
Campbell	Helms	Schumer
Cantwell	Hollings	Sessions
Carnahan	Hutchinson	Shelby
Carper	Hutchison	Smith (NH)
Chafee	Inhofe	Smith (OR)
Cleland	Inouye	Snowe
Clinton	Jeffords	Specter
Cochran	Johnson	Stabenow
Collins	Kennedy	Stevens
Conrad	Kerry	Thomas
Corzine	Kohl	Thompson
Craig	Kyl	Thurmond
Crapo	Landrieu	Torricelli
Daschle	Leahy	Voinovich
Dayton	Levin	Warner
DeWine	Lieberman	Wellstone
Dodd	Lincoln	Wyden
Domenici	Lott	
Dorgan	Lugar	

The nomination was confirmed.

NOMINATION OF NORMAN Y. MINETA TO BE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I strongly support the nomination of Norman Mi-

neta to be the next Secretary of Transportation. Throughout his very lengthy career in public service, Norman Mineta has demonstrated a true commitment to improving the quality of life for all Americans and a strong understanding of the elemental role that transportation plays in our national prosperity.

Mr. Mineta began his public career in 1967 as the Mayor of the San Jose City Council in California. In 1971, he was elected Mayor of San Jose. Most of us know Mr. Mineta, however, from his very distinguished career in the House of Representatives, where he served for 21 years representing the Silicon Valley area. At the culmination of his career in the House, Mr. Mineta served as the Chairman of the Committee on Public Works and Transportation—the committee we now know as the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Once we succeed in confirming Norman Mineta today, we will usher in a Secretary with a very extensive grounding in both politics and transportation policy. Many of Mr. Mineta's most significant legislative accomplishments in the House were in the area of transportation. During the drafting of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, Mr. Mineta served as Chairman of the Public Works Subcommittee on Ground Transportation. He has also been very involved in aviation policy, both during and after his career in Congress. President Clinton asked him to chair the National Civil Aviation Review Commission. This "Mineta Commission" made several significant recommendations for revamping the Federal Aviation Administration. At the request of Secretary of Transportation Rodney Slater, Mr. Mineta also chaired an ad hoc advisory committee on truck safety.

Much has been accomplished in these two areas, but so much more remains to be done. Aviation delays have reached an all-time high. Secretary Mineta was quite frank with the members of the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee during his confirmation hearing in telling them that they should not expect to see these delays diminish any time soon. Many of us have read some frightening revelations regarding the inadequate enforcement efforts made by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration in maintaining truck safety. These are two areas where Secretary Mineta has committed himself to moving out quickly to implement a comprehensive series of improvements, and I support him in these efforts.

When President-elect Bush announced his selection of Norman Mineta to be his Transportation Secretary, then-Commerce Secretary Mineta stated "Inadequate infrastructure is one of the chief threats to a thriving economy." This is a point that I have sought to make on the floor of the United States Senate numerous times,

and Members can expect me to continue to make this case time and time again. I am glad that I will have an ally in Secretary Mineta in convincing my colleagues that we need to reverse the overall disinvestment in our nation's infrastructure that we have experienced over the last two decades. We have begun to make some progress by honoring the funding guarantees that I and other Senators included in the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century. However, much more needs to be done, and I look forward to working with Norman Mineta to see to it that we take a more aggressive approach in investing in America.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Norman Y. Mineta of California to be Secretary of Transportation? The yeas and nays have been ordered, and the clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 100, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 5 Ex.]

YEAS—100

Akaka	Durbin	McCain
Allard	Edwards	McConnell
Allen	Ensign	Mikulski
Baucus	Enzi	Miller
Bayh	Feingold	Murkowski
Bennett	Feinstein	Murray
Biden	Fitzgerald	Nelson (FL)
Bingaman	Frist	Nelson (NE)
Bond	Graham	Nickles
Boxer	Gramm	Reed
Breaux	Grassley	Reid
Brownback	Gregg	Roberts
Bunning	Hagel	Rockefeller
Burns	Harkin	Santorum
Byrd	Hatch	Sarbanes
Campbell	Helms	Schumer
Cantwell	Hollings	Sessions
Carnahan	Hutchinson	Shelby
Carper	Hutchison	Smith (NH)
Chafee	Inhofe	Smith (OR)
Cleland	Inouye	Snowe
Clinton	Jeffords	Specter
Cochran	Johnson	Stabenow
Collins	Kennedy	Stevens
Conrad	Kerry	Thomas
Corzine	Kohl	Thompson
Craig	Kyl	Thurmond
Crapo	Landrieu	Torricelli
Daschle	Leahy	Voinovich
Dayton	Levin	Warner
DeWine	Lieberman	Wellstone
Dodd	Lincoln	Wyden
Domenici	Lott	
Dorgan	Lugar	

The nomination was confirmed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CORZINE). Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.

Mr. BINGAMAN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. BINGAMAN. I want to say a few words about our former colleague, Senator Alan Cranston. I ask unanimous consent that following my statement, Senator DORGAN be recognized to speak as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.